

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Chinese authorities are facilitating the departure of Soviet persons from Mukden when such persons indicate a willingness or desire to relinquish their Soviet passports. An exit visa can be obtained in one hour.
2. The Chinese openly advise visa applicants to abandon their Soviet passports in favor of Chinese citizenship or stateless passports which the Chinese are willing to provide.
3. Most Soviet persons prefer to give up their passports in Chinese territory further to the south rather than in Mukden, where the process is slow and difficult. L. V. Almazov, Soviet trade representative in Mukden, does not have authority to permit Soviet individuals to relinquish Soviet passports; passports must be sent to Peiping for approval.
4. Certain Soviet committees in cities such as Tsingtao have this authority. The procedure there is to place a notice on a club bulletin board that a certain subject is no longer a Soviet citizen, after which his passport is taken to Peiping. The Chinese recognize this as a valid relinquishment. Seventy persons in Tsingtao have already given up their Soviet passports.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 18 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the President of the United States.

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